for all Open Tenders in down-loadable format and details of high value contract finalized by Railways are being put on website of the concerned Railway.

Latest global system of e-procurement *i.e.* procurement of items using web based technology is being introduced on Railways. A pilot project for implementing e-procurement on Northern Railway has been sanctioned. On successful implementation of the pilot project of e-procurement on Northern Railway, the same will be extended to other Railways as well. Further, Material Management Information System (MMIS) incorporating on line exchange of information on material management recently introduced on Central Railway is proposed to be extended to all other Zonal Railways for effective material management.

Gauge conversion between Mansi-Saharsa

1147. SHRI VEER SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of on-going work on gauge-conversion between Mansi-Saharsa under the East Central Railway;

(b) the present status of funds allocated for the purpose and the amount spent thereon, so far; and

(c) the expected date for completion of the work and its opening of broad gauge line at the earliest possible time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The work of gauge conversion of Mansi-Saharsa is in progress. Earthwork in formation, widening and minor bridge works have been completed. Work on some of the major bridges is in progress.

(b) The anticipated cost of gauge conversion of Mansi-Saharsa section is about Rs. 210.51 crore. The expenditure incurred on the project upto 31.3.2004 is about Rs. 60.52 crore. An outlay of Rs. 20 crore has been proposed in the Budget 2004-05.

(c) The work is targeted for completion during 2004-05.